Message Text

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT US KS

SUBJ: MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS STATEMENT ON RECENT US-ROK

DISCUSSIONS

REF: SEOUL 10190

1. WHEN MOFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR PAK SANG-YONG HANDED TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENT (REFTEL) TO EMBOFF HE SAID THAT HE HAD EMPHASIZED IN HIS BRIEFING OF THE PRESS AT 1000 AM DECEMBER 28 THAT EVERYTHING WAS NOT NEATLY SETTLED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE ROK BUT IN VIEW OF BASIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE ROK, PRESS COULD SAY THAT TWO COUNTRIES HAVE COME TO A GENERAL SETTLEMENT OF THESE PROBLEMS. PAK SAID THAT HE EXPLAINED TO PRESS THAT ROKG PLACED ITS MAIN EMPHASIS ON PARAGRAPH THREE OF MINISTER'S STATEMENT, WHICH EMPHASIZED FRIENDLY TIES BETWEEN U.S. AND ROK. HE SAID IN PRESS BRIEFING THAT ROKG PLACES OVER-RIDING EMPHASIS ON NEED TO MAINTAIN FREINDLY TIES WITH USG. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. PAK TOLD EMBOFF THAT MOFA HOPES THAT STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, IF HE COMMENTS ON ROK STATEMENT, WILL PLACE SIMILAR EMPHASIS ON OVER-RIDING IMPORTANCE OF FRIENDLY ROK-US TIES.

3. PAK SAID NEWLY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE FOR PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION ALSO MET MORNING DECEMBER 28 TO DISCUSS ISSUES INVOLVED. COMMITTEE, WHICH COMPRISED OF PRIMIN AND MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, INFORMATION AND REUNIFICATION, AND TOP SIX LEADERS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, HEARD REPORT FROM PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER FOLLOWING WHICH WRITTEN SUMMARY REPORT TO COMMITTEE ON SUBJECT PROBLEMS WAS RELEASED TO PRESS. TEXT THIS REPORT BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTEL. SNEIDER

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